

APR 16 1952

TO: Commanding General
Headquarters, Air Training Command
Scott Air Force Base, Illinois

SUBJECT: Instruction in the Geography of the U. S. S. R.

REFERENCE: Memorandum to the Director, CIA, from the
Commanding General, Hdqrs, Air Training Command,
Scott Air Force Base, Illinois, dated 4 April 1952
(Ref 300.7)

1. In answer to the reference request, the Geographic Division of this Office has provided information on instruction being given in U. S. universities and McGill University at Montreal on the geography of the U. S. S. R., and has included descriptions of course outlines and reference works.

2. Inclosure A lists titles of books known to have been used either as textbooks or as basic references for instruction at university level in the United States. The books by Berg and Balzan are comprehensive works translated from the Russian language under the auspices of the American Council of Learned Societies. Some of the books listed are very sound, others having a slightly propagandistic flavor.

3. The principal collections of Russian language publications relating to geography that are held either in university libraries or on the personal shelves of professors are located at the following universities: Stanford; Chicago; Syracuse; Iowa; Michigan; Western Reserve; California; and McGill.

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4. The Russian language capabilities of professors teaching courses on the geography of the U.S.S.R. have not been systematically surveyed. From the personal knowledge of the staff, it is believed that the following have some reading knowledge of Russian although the degree of proficiency is not known in each case: Zaborski, Bogdan, McGill (excellent); Harris, Chauncy D., Chicago; Kostanick, Huey L., California, Los Angeles; Mirov, N.T., California, Berkeley (excellent); Perejda, Andrew D., Michigan State College; and Schaefer, F. K., University of Iowa.

5. Descriptions available here of courses on the geography of the U.S.S.R. which have been offered since 1949 at universities in the United States and at McGill are listed in enclosure B.

6. It is hoped that this information will be of assistance in planning for the preparation of the proposed manual.

FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE:

RM
Robert Amory, Jr.
Assistant Director
Research and Reports

Encls: As stated

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